

· Director's Meeting 572 Northern Timber Cruisers- Clubhouse, Millinocket  
Secretary's Report February 12, 2022

At 6:30 Mike Grass Jr. called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary's report for December, M/S/C and placed on file at the office.

Treasurer's report. Read and placed on file at the office. Special event is the virtual race.

President's Comments- Contacted by Joe Higgins, handed a off trail issue to MSA. BRP and Polaris will contribute will contribute \$5000. each for the MSA trail mapping. Detailed a recent 292 mile ride with Brent and John. Clearing birch and maple trees out of the trail then it accumulated 15" of snow and ended up in the dark. Signage was some good and some not. Pattern was perfectly signed.

Executive V.P.: Al Swett- Next director's meeting is unfortunately the same date as the groomer and signage workshop. I'll be in Millinocket then come up to Island Falls. Our season was slow to start. Now getting snow to set up a good base and hopefully we get a lot of snow.

Eastern Region V.P.: Eileen Lafland- Thank you to the Northern Timber Cruiser's kitchen crew. One of the highest memberships in Eastern Region. Thank you to Larry Lafland for escorting us on our 116 mile ride today. And making sure everyone made it back to the clubhouse. We hit two feet of slush at White House Landing. We made it, everyone powered through. Thank you to James Stedman for bringing two plaques in the shape of the state of Maine with the MSA initials. Which went to the person who came the furthest by sled to this meeting. Brad Barker for riding from Leeds 250 miles. The other one goes to the one who came the furthest by car. Jerry Major from Oxford 175 miles. The Eastern Region is doing the best that we can with the snowfall given.

Coastal Region V.P.: Dave Watson- This is my second home. Thank you for the great dinner. In my region trails we open, everybody out grooming, then we got rain, then they were closed. A short season but a great response.

Central Region V.P.: Jack Lord- ITS 87 got moved 4 times this year, so read the signs. Things are going along pretty well.

Northern Region V.P.: Matt Stedman- Thank you for having us. Great ride today. Nice to see Katahdin mountain from a different angle. Got snow early this year, been grooming since Christmas. Really set up well after this last storm. It has been ridiculously busy doing benefits for trail grooming every weekend. Northern Region showcase ride and directors meeting Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup> will be meeting at the Big Valley S.C. on route 2 in Island Falls. Come see a different part of Aroostook County.

Safety Committee Chairman: Al Swett: Jim White, past MSA president has Covid in the hospital in Bangor. Chris Merrill was out grooming in the Bethel area. Out on a Skandic, took a shortcut home at the end night grooming. He hit a cable went up over the sled and landed on the drag, broke his neck and got a concussion. Another accident in Sidney, a girl missed a corner and broke her back, leg and nose. She is in pretty bad shape. One fatality so far this year, he ran a stop sign and got T-boned. Had some close

calls. In Rangeley, I was clipping along on the power lines and three snowmobilers blew past me just off the trail. If they only knew the dangers just beneath the snow cover, rocks and stumps. Luckily it was a miss. All the accidents have a huge effect on the people around you. Your family, friends, employer. Stay alert out there. Stay safe. The folks in Brookfield has been so helpful with the safety posters. They did 800 at the cost of \$1200. Our friends at BIW want to help. What do you need? Special signage.- 24/7 Grooming and the curvy arrow signs for twisty trails. Got 100 of each, predrilled and reflectorized. They look great. LMK what you need for a sign, there is a two day turnaround.

50/50 \$97 Brent Spaulding, Eastern Maine S.C. President was drawn.

Steering Committee: John Monk- Spoke of his 200 mile ride. Fatigued from the challenging conditions, trees in the trail and heavy snow. We had radios to communicate and to converse, pointing out trail issues and brainstorming different ideas. We are currently watching two bills. LD-1813 ATV bill to increase the weight from 2000 lbs. to 2500 lbs and LD 538 Sunday hunting. Working on getting the Executive Director's position filled.

Hospitality: Gail Ryan- Contact me for your request to acknowledge one's birthday, anniversary, illness, birth, death, or celebration with the address.

Membership: Eileen Lafland- Western Region still number one. Rangeley is almost a thousand. We will recognize the top ten clubs at the annual meeting.

Old Business: Northern Region showcase ride and directors meeting Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup> will be meeting at the Big Valley S.C. on route 2 in Island Falls.

New Business: Annual meeting is April 30<sup>th</sup> at Jeff's Catering in Brewer. Need nominations for dealer of the year, groomer of the year, club of the year, snowmobiler of the year and so on. Get your nominations in by the end of February.

#### 2022-2023 MSA Officers Slate

President-Alan Swett

Executive V.P.- Mark Chinnock

Treasurer- Lori Hemmerdinger

Secretary- Brad Barker

Central Region VP- Jack Lord

Coastal Region VP- Dave Watson

Eastern Region VP- Eileen Lafland

Northern Region VP- Matt Stedman

Western Region VP- Jim Boyce

Regional Directors:

Coastal Region- Rodney Berry, Eric Perreault

Central Region- David Cogley, Alan Dugas

Eastern Region- Paul Bolstridge, Larry Lafland, Gary Dowling, John Monk, Craig Lemieux

Northern Region-Nick Morrill, Denise Duperre, Lendall Buckingham, Jeff Brooks

Western Region-Gary Okenquist, Paul Gallant, Jon Wakefield, Roland Bowie  
No other nominations from the floor. (X3)

Brad Barker-President of the Leeds Stump Thumpers S.C. Our challenges of off trail riders. One recent rider in Leeds went off a clearly marked trail onto a landowners woods road, drove up over his woodpile and hit his wood splitter. Upsetting the landowner to say the least. What can we do about this? Which lead to a lengthy discussion of education, going to the schools with virtual teaching and linking it to our website. We have one of the best safety directors ever, that connects with the students. Have him do a safety video. This is how we can get the word out across the state. What does MSA stands for? Why are here? What it's like to go ask permission from a landowner, go blaze a trail through the woods, clear a path for snowmobiles and groomers, what happens when someone goes on the wrong side of the snow fence and puts all of this at risk. What it's like to approach a landowner after there has been trespass, which the landowner either gives us one more chance or permanently closes their to start all over again. MAYBE. What it is like to put a bill through legislature. Respect our privilege to use the trails. The consequences of breaking the law. What MSA stands for. Have contest for the students make there own video and get rewarded for the best ones. Eileen- Kids will watch kid's videos. Get support from BRP, Polaris, BIW or others. Maybe require juveniles (and new out of state renters) to watch these videos.

Mike enjoyed the scenic ride today, the view of Katahdin was spectacular. He observed 4 snowmobilers that had crossed the ditch and had run over some fir trees. When asked why they did this? Their response was, " They knew the land owner." Which happened to be Irving. (Again an example of education.)  
We also need to educate the new generation of landowners.

Pot of Gold- Oakland Sno-Goers. No director present, \$400. forfeited.  
Meeting adjourned 8:15  
Respectfully submitted,  
Brad Barker, Secretary.



